CALIFORNIA STATE AUDITOR

MARIANNE P. EVASHENK CHIEF DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

Independent Auditors' Report

THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the State of California as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the State's management. responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the pension trust funds, which reflect total assets constituting 86 percent of the fiduciary funds. We also did not audit the financial statements of certain enterprise funds, which reflect total assets and revenues, constituting 89 percent and 90 percent, respectively, of the enterprise funds. In addition, we did not audit the University of California funds. Finally, we did not audit the financial statements of certain component unit authorities, which reflect total assets and revenues, constituting 97 percent and 93 percent, respectively, of the component unit authorities. The financial statements of the pension trust funds, certain enterprise funds, the University of California funds, and certain component unit authorities referred to above were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for these funds and entities is based solely upon the reports of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with government auditing standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the reports of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based upon our audit and the reports of other auditors, the general purpose financial statements as listed in the table of contents present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the State of California as of June 30, 1997, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary funds and component unit authorities for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The required supplementary information and the combining financial statements and schedules listed in the accompanying table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the State of California. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, based upon our audit and the reports of other auditors, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

We did not audit the data included in the introductory and statistical sections of this report, and accordingly, we express no opinion on them. In accordance with government auditing standards, reports on the State's internal control structure and on its compliance with laws and regulations will be issued in our single audit report.

BUREAU OF STATE AUDITS

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PHILIP J. JELICOCH, CPA Deputy State Auditor

November 21, 1997